**Cooperative Purpose**

*A cooperative’s purpose or mission statement is a statement that outlines why a cooperative was formed or what purpose it intends to serve. The statement acts as a guide for the cooperative’s development and activities. Below are examples of statements of purpose or mission statements from a number of cooperatives.*

**Welch Foods, Inc.** (Welch’s). Mission: Build a brand the consumer loves and maximize the value for our family farmers and their grapes. [[1]](#footnote-1)

**Credit Union of Ohio.** Mission: This mission of all team members at Credit Union of Ohio is to improve our members’ standards of living and better their lifestyles. [[2]](#footnote-2)

**Cooperative Federal.** Mission: The mission of Cooperative Federal is to rebuild our local economy in ways that foster justice, serve people and communities that are under-served by conventional financial institutions, and responsibly manage our members’ assets. [[3]](#footnote-3)

**REA Energy Cooperative, Inc.** Mission: REA Energy Cooperative, Inc., a member-owned and consumer-driven electric cooperative, will provide quality electric service at a competitive price. Its board and management will work together, as a team, to improve the quality of rural life, now and in the future, by following cooperative principles, promoting economic development, and any other means that may benefit its consumer-members.

**Land O’ Lakes, Inc.** Mission: We are a market- and customer-driven cooperative committed to optimizing the value of our members’ dairy, crop, and livestock production. [[4]](#footnote-4)

**Lake-to-River Food Cooperative.** The Lake-to-River Food Cooperative is a member-owned cooperative of farmers, producers, processors, and buyers who grow, prepare, add value to and market healthy foods to families, institutional and commercial buyers in the Mahoning Valley and throughout the region and beyond. [[5]](#footnote-5)

Ohio Cooperative Development Center

The Ohio State University South Centers

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1. https://webstaging.welchs.com/docs/default-source/Annual-Reports/annual-report-2014-final-front.pdf?Status=Temp&sfvrsn= [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. https://www.cuofohio.org/about-us/index.html [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. http://www.cooperativefederal.org/en/about/mission [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. http://www.landolakesinc.com/company/philosophy/default.aspx [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. https://www.localfoodmarketplace.com/laketoriver/Content.aspx?content=about [↑](#footnote-ref-5)